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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/002,356	10/30/2001	Mark D. Seaman	10008303 - 1	4970
7590	08/02/2006		EXAMINER	
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY Intellectual Property Administration P.O. Box 272400 Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400			HUYNH, BA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2179	

DATE MAILED: 08/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/002,356	SEAMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ba Huynh	2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/3/06.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-48 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent 6,833,848 (Wolff) in view of US patent application publication 2002/0167538 (Bhetanabhotla).

- As for claims 1, 13, 14, 18, 28, 35, 38, 42, 45: Wolff teaches a computer implemented method and corresponding apparatus usable in a general purpose computer system 700 for composing a multimedia presentation from a plurality of media elements, the plurality of media elements including audio media elements and image elements (3:38-40), the image elements including at least one still image (7:20-23), comprising the steps/means, program logic configured to compose a slide show (12:5-10, i.e., “the initial presentation”). Although Wolff teach that the media elements are arranged in chronological order based on automatic timestamps (3:41-43, 4:54-57, 5:8-10), Wolff is silent regarding the *automatic* arranging the media elements based on time stamps. However, in the same field of slide presentation of digital album, Bhetanabhotla teaches the automatic arranging media elements of a slide presentation based in part on the time stamps of the media elements (0018, 0034-0036, 0055, 0113, 0152, 0154). It would have been obvious

to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine Bhetanabhotla's teaching of automatic arranging the media elements based on the time stamps to Wolff's temporal ordered media elements. Motivation of the combining is for avoiding the time consuming manual arrangement. The control setting for specifying the duration of the slides is inherently included in Wolff's teaching of slide show. Even if it is not, implementation of means for setting the duration of the slides in a slide show is well known in the art and is disclosed by Bhetanabhotla (0089, 0155, 0156. See also Lin's 0051-0053). It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine Bhetanabhotla's teaching of the means for specifying the duration of the slides to Wolff. Motivation of the combining is for user control of the slide presentation. As image elements are chronologically ordered, associated audio elements are also placed in the same order (Wolff's 3:38-43).

- As for claims 2, 15, 19: An initial presentation is displayed (Wolff's figs 1, 2).
- As for claims 3, 5, 7, 16, 20, 40, 47: Wolff's figs 1, 2 disclose the displaying of image tracks and sound tracks showing the order of media elements. The composing of the slide presentation including reordering the images (Wolff's 5:8-67).
- As for claims 4, 6, 17, 21: Wolff's figs 1, 2 disclose the displaying of a sound line showing the order of expression of sound elements for editing is well known as disclosed by Wolff (see also 3:22-32, 59-65; 6:1-7).
- As for claims 8, 23: In light of the combining, a presentation based in part on the duration time of at least one still image (Bhetanabhotla's 0155).

- As for claim 9: The presentation is edited in part by the user (Wolff's 4:43 – 5:34).
- As for claims 10, 11, 25, 26: Graphic and text elements can be added to the presentation (Wolff's 6:1-2).
- As for claims 12, 27: The control setting can be reset by the user (Bhetanabhotla 0155).
- As for claims 22, 24: The editing including reordering the images (Wolff's 5:8-67).
- As for claim 29: In light of the combining, media elements are automatically placed in chronological order.
- As for claims 30, 31, 39, 46: As image elements are chronologically ordered, associated audio elements are also placed in the same order (Wolff's 3:38-43).
- As for claim 32: The initial presentation can be edit by the user (Wolff's 4:49 – 6:28).
- As for claim 33: An image line is displayed in coordination with display of the presentation (Wolff's figs 1-2).
- As for claim 34: An audio line is displayed in coordination with display of the presentation (Wolff's 3:22-32, 59-65; 6:1-7, figs 1-2).
- As for claims 36, 43: The control settings are user-selected control settings (Bhetanabhotla's 0155).
- As for claims 37, 44: The control settings include a duration that still images are to be displayed (Bhetanabhotla 's 0155).

- As for claims 41, 48: It is inherently in Wolf that image editing includes editing the initial presentation to create a final presentation (see also Wolf's description of track 115).
- As for claims 49: The time or recording is based on a time stamp associated with the media elements (Wolff 3:38-42, 4:54-57; Bhetanabhotla 's fig 4).
- As for claim 50: The user selected images are arranged in chronological order (Wolff's 5:8-10, 4:54-57; Bhetanabhotla 's 0034).
- As for claim 51: Media elements can be bounded together, i.e., individual photograph can be bound with another photograph or an audio element (3:22-24, 38-40). Bounding of the elements is based on the timestamp of the element (4:54-57, 11:38-41).
- As for claim 52: Per Bhetanabhotla, time attribute is specified by the user. Thus a media element in a bound sequence can be unbound by re-specifying the time (0034, 0036, fig 4).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-48 have been considered but are not deemed persuasive.

REMARKS:

Wolff et al teach that the time of capture of a photograph object is stored along with the object (3:41-43). Photographs are ordered in track 105 by the timestamps (4:54-57). Photographs in track 105 are generated automatically as a result of a query (4:65-5:7). Thus it appears that the photographs in track 105 are arranged automatically

according to timestamps, not by the user manual operation. Even if it is not, arranging the photographs automatically according to timestamps is disclosed by Bhetanabhotla.

The applicant argues that Bhetanabhotla does not teach arranging the photographs automatically according to timestamps. In response to the argument, the limitation is disclosed in par 0034 wherein the photographs are arranged in chronological order I time cabinet.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, it would have been obvious to combine Bhetanabhotla's teaching of chronologically arranging the photographs automatically according to timestamps to Wolff's manually arranging the photographs in chronological order according to timestamps. Motivation of the combine is for the obvious advantage of increasing processing speed and reducing labor work. The combined Wolff & Bhetanabhotla would provide a presentation having photographs automatically arranged in chronological order according to timestamps. As image elements are chronologically ordered, associated audio elements are also placed in the same order (Wolff's 3:38-43).

In response to the argument that the combined references does not teach both the image track and sound track, the limitation is disclosed by Wolff in figure 1, having

image tracks 105, 110, 115, and sound tracks 130, 135. See also Wolff's 11:38-41 and 12:5-43. Media elements are bound together to compose a sequence of elements (Wolff's 3:22-25, 38-40; Bhetanabhotla's 0129). Media elements can also be bound in categorization (Bhetanabhotla's fig. 4).

In response to the argument that the combined teaching does not teach continuously displaying the media elements, the limitation is disclosed by Wolff in 11:38-41, wherein the media elements are presented continuously as a movie.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2179

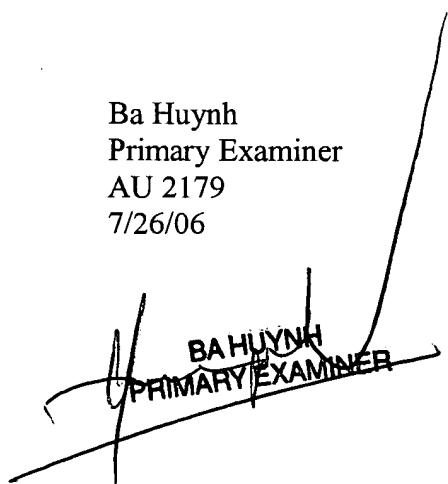
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ba Huynh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4138.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ba Huynh
Primary Examiner
AU 2179
7/26/06


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